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| 10/550,041 | 09/08/2006 | Niklas Johansson | P18159-US1 | 6177 |
| 27045 | 7590 | 07/23/2010 | | |
| ERICSSON INC. 6300 LEGACY DRIVE M/S EVR 1-C-11 PLANO, TX 75024 | | | EXAMINER BAYAT, BRADLEY B | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3625 | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/550,041

Applicant(s)

JOHANSSON ET AL.

Examiner

BRADLEY B. BAYAT

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/GS-08)
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/21/05, 12/1/06

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is in response to amendment filed on 7/1/2010. Claims 1-17 are pending and examined.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and therefore considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: “as a server” should read “at a server.” Appropriate correction is required.

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10 first element “means for receiving” is a means (or step) plus function limitation that invokes 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph. However, the written description fails to clearly link or associate the disclosed structure, material, or acts to the claimed function such that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize what structure, material, or acts perform the claimed function. The same applies to all other elements recited.

Applicant is required to:

(a) Amend the claim so that the claim limitation will no longer be a means (or step) plus function limitation under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph; or

(b) Amend the written description of the specification such that it clearly links or associates the corresponding structure, material, or acts to the claimed function without introducing any new matter (35 U.S.C. 132(a)); or

(c) State on the record where the corresponding structure, material, or acts are set forth in the written description of the specification that perform the claimed function. For more information, see 37 CFR 1.75(d) and MPEP §§ 608.01(o) and 2181.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper et al. (hereinafter Cooper) 2004/0068473 A1 in view of Cunningham et al. (hereinafter Cunningham) 2004/0029566 A1.

1. Cooper discloses a method of supporting purchases of content over a public communication network from a content provider to a customer using an access operator for communication, as [sic] a server controlled by the content provider receives a purchase request

for content over said public network from a terminal operated by the customer, comprising the steps of (see Fig 1 and associated text, request for content 20 from customer 10 to content provider 12):

- the content provider server sending a purchase indication message to a transaction router to indicate the purchase request and ask for validation: of the purchase, the transaction router having established a trusted relationship with the content provider and with the access operator [0016, content provider server upon receiving a customer request send a validation request to transaction server],

- the transaction router validating the requested purchase in response to said purchase indication message, including checking whether the access operator approves the requested purchase, and asking the customer to confirm the purchase during said purchase dialogue [0018, transaction validation server verifies and validates purchase request including customer data],

- the transaction router sending a purchase validation status to the content provider server including the status of the access operator's approval and the customer's purchase confirmation [0017-18, transaction router send approval upon validation], and

- the content provider delivering content to the customer according to the requested purchase, if the purchase has been properly validated by means of the provided purchase status, such that the access operator can charge the customer for the purchase [Figure 1, content transfer 32 upon validation 30].

Cooper does not explicitly disclose the content provider server sending a URL network address to the customer terminal to connect the customer with the transaction router for performing a purchase dialogue. However Cunningham teaches the above limitation [0087, 94,

126]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include features and steps as taught by Cunningham in the system and method of Cooper, since the claimed invention is merely a combination of old elements, and in the combination each element merely would have performed the same function as it did separately, and one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were predictable.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein which said access operator charges the customer for the purchase by means of a subscription bill or a pre-paid card (Fig 1, carrier or charge card or prepaid billing providers 18).

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein that said purchase validation status is sent in response to a purchaser status request from the content provider (Fig 1, validation request 22 and validation status 30).

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein which that validating the requested purchase further includes identifying said operator based on received customer identification for said customer (Fig 1 and Fig 2 with associated text, subscriber authorization) .

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein that said customer identification is any of: a telephone number, a network address or a subscription identity (Fig 2, subscriber identity, 0034).

6. A method according to claim 4, wherein that validating the requested purchase further

includes identifying the customer based on said received customer identification [0023, 27, 34].

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein that a purchase confirmation is received after prompting the customer in a purchase dialogue (Fig 1, acknowledgement request 26 and response acknowledgment 28).

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein that a charge request for the purchase is sent from the content provider to the transaction router when the content has been delivered (Fig 2, 60, validation to release content sent to content provider before subscriber charged 62).

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein that each of said established relationships includes a business agreement and necessary technical interfaces [0003-5, 0016-17].

Claims 10-17 are directed to a system of the above recited method and are rejected as above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRADLEY B. BAYAT whose telephone number is (571) 272-6704. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Smith can be reached on (571) 272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bradley B Bayat/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3625